5.2.9.2.4

Residential accommodation for visiting research scholars

Resolution by Prof. S. Bhattacharya:

In view of the fact that the National Archives of India cannot provide residential accommodation to visiting research scholars and that the resolution in this regard passed at the 41st Session in 1971 has not produced tangible results, the Commission resolves that the Government of India be requested, as an interim measure, to earmark for this purpose a set of rooms in one of the hostels for members of IAS: resolved further that the Secretary be authorised to constitute a sub-committee to pursue this matter and to frame rules and regulations for the allotment of such rooms as may be made available.

Explanatory Note: The Resolution is self-explanatory and a note, redundant, residential facilities are available in State Archives, e.g. those of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Kerala, etc. according to the reports provided by the Indian Historical Records Commission. In New Delhi research scholars are usually advised to seek accommodation in the Sapru House Hostel which has poor facilities and often happens to be fully booked.

Standing Committee's Views:

The Indian Historical Records Commission passed a a Resolution requesting the National Archives of India and State Archives to make available residential accommodation to bonafide research scholars at reasonable rates (Resolution XV, 41st Session, Trivandrum, 1971). The Resolution was forwarded to the State/Union Territory Governments for implementation. The residential facilities are reported to have been provided in Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

A meeting of a group of officers set up by the Department of Culture, Government of India, to examine the

question of providing suitable accommodation at economical rates for the scholars coming from outside Delhi and wanting to work in the National Archives of India and Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi was held on 1st December, 1975. The "Group" felt that the Sapru House Hostel offered the best available accommodation, particularly in view of the central location and reasonable rates of rent. Five research scholars were provided accommodation facilities there during 1975-76 while 12 scholars from various universities availed themselves of the facilities in the Gomti Guest House, New Delhi during 1977-78.

The hostel accommodation at the Kasturba Gandhi Marg, and Western Court, New Delhi is under the control of the Directorate of Estates, Government of India, which could be requested to reserve about a dozen rooms for the use of the scholars working in the Research Room of the National Archives of India. Both the places are located at a distance of about a furlong from the National Archives of India and have boarding facilities as well.

5.2.9.2.5

Transfer of erstwhile Pondicherry Records in the possession of France to the Government of India

Resolution by Prof. G.S. Dikshit

Resolved that the Government of India should approach the Government of France for return of all records transferred by the Government of France from Pondicherry to their country on the eve of the merger of Pondicherry with the Union of India in 1956.